

WHY STAND IN JEOPARDY?

1 Cor 15: 29-32

1st Resurrection:

1. Saints at Christ's resurrection
2. The church
3. Tribulation saints
4. OT saints
5. Kingdom saints

Born once – die twice

Born twice – die once...raised to eternal life.

1 Cor. 15:29 *Baptized for the dead* Principle of interpretation: "Never make an isolated passage in scripture say something which contradicts the rest of scripture."

Don't assume:

1. Paul advocating
2. Baptism means water

Paul has been telling Corinthian Christians that if no resurrection:

1. Christ is still dead and in grave
2. Our message is wrong and preaching vain.
3. No hope for future.

Different Interpretations:

1. Dead = Christ

What will people do who were baptized on account of the death of Christ if the dead rise not at all?

2. Baptism by proxy

In someone else's place. Eph. 2:8-9; Titus 3:5-6; Rom. 3:28

3. Symbolic

Identified with...overwhelmed with...

Matt. 20:22

Overwhelmed and identified with suffering and the trials of those who died for the faith.

4. Literal Acts 2:41; Acts 8:36-37

Mac: *Although a person does not have to be baptized to be a Christian, he had to be baptized to be an obedient Christian...with the obvious exception of a believer who has no opportunity to be baptized before death. And a person was baptized unless the church was satisfied he was saved. To ask, then, if a person was baptized, was equivalent to asking if he was saved.*

This interpretation...people had died for Christ...God used their testimonies to convict others to believe and be saved...they were immediately baptized for (on acct of...because of) the dead.

1 Cor. 15:29 Why , if there is no resurrection is it that we are willing to face constant danger?

1 Cor. 15:31 *I protest:* I have a hard time with this false concept of their being no resurrection! *I die daily.* I am subjected to the threat of physical harm and martyrdom.

Every day of my life I face death and die to self daily.

1 Cor. 15:32 *After the manner:* From a human point of view.

Fought with beasts at Ephesus: Paul went through persecution while in Ephesus.

Possibly symbolic!